Attornev's Docket No.: 4936 USA/ETCH/METAL/JB1

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Examiner:

Moore, Karla A.

Steven Verhaverbeke et al.

Art Unit:

1763

U.S. Serial No:

09/945,454

Filed:

August 31, 2001

For: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING A WAFER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed December 5, 2002. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to MAIL STOP COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 5, 2003

Date of Deposit

Teresa Edwards

Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

05/09/2003 HDEMESS1 00000068 09945454

01 FC:1252

410.00 OP

Serial No.: 09/945,454 Attorney Docket: 04887P521